

## Meeting of the Board of Directors April 14th, 2015

**Meeting Location:** Academy of Career Exploration, 155 Harrison Street, Providence, RI 02907  
**Date & Time:** April 14th, 2015, 4:30 pm  
**Directors Present:** Jane Nugent, Kathy Fisher, Jane Bernardino, Ela Silva, Alan Neville, Donna Paine, Carmen Ferguson, Phil Zarlengo, Kerry Altman  
**Others Present:** Mario Cirillo, Roger Ray, Dittmar, McNeil, & Ferolito, LLC., Vanessa Toledo-Vickers, Eileen Rapose and Pam O'Day, EBEC  
**Directors Absent:** Roberto García, Denise DeBarros, Marion Hague  
**Presiding Officer:** Jane Nugent

### **I. Call to Order & Opening Remarks**

Board Chair Jane Nugent called the meeting to order at 4:40 pm.

### **II. Roll Call**

### **III. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **IV. Chair's Opening Remarks**

Ms. Nugent thanked the team members for the work that they did to prepare for this meeting.

### **V. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes**

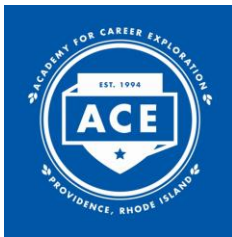
Ms. Fisher moved and Ms. Altman seconded the approval of the Tuesday, March 10th meeting minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote of all members present.

### **VI. Discussion/Vote on Budget Update**

Mr. Ray distributed a Balance Sheet and a Revenue and Expense report and walked the team through some data points. Mr. Ray explained that they are starting to work on the budget for the school year 2015-2016. The teacher substitute line continues to be a tremendous challenge for us. There was also discussion about the Medicaid reimbursement. The group discussed the fundraising goals and the status of grant requests given the changes over the past year.

### **VII. EBEC Presentation**

Ms. Nugent introduced the East Bay Education Collaborative (EBEC) consultants, Eileen Rapose and Pam O'Day, who have been delivering professional development to our teachers this year in Math and ELA. Ms. Rapose and Ms. O'Day explained the work that they have done with teachers to enhance the curriculum and use testing data to identify focus areas and individualized student learning. Ms. Rapose briefly discussed the PARCC test and the preparation for and implementation of the test in the school. They distributed a report with data points from student diagnostic assessments and then reviewed the data with board members. She explained how the data is analyzed and how they drill down into the data to identify the areas that the teachers can address to improve student results. She explained that the STAR testing allows them to devise a learning plan for each student that addresses the specific areas they need. Ms. Rapose added that they are using advisory periods to prepare students for the NECAP Science testing round in



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May. Dr. Cirillo added that we continue to focus on math but we have also identified a plan for the ELA program and will use the data to continue to drive instruction. There was discussion about the data and a desire to look more closely at ESL students and their performance.

### **VIII. Evaluation Update**

Ms. Paine and Ms. Fisher updated the board on the mid-year evaluation of the Head of School. They distributed the evaluation instrument and reviewed the status of the evaluation process. Ms. Paine reviewed all of the areas and commented on the progress. They commented that things are on track and there is a tremendous amount of work being done to continue to move towards all of the goals. They did not find any areas of concern. The process will continue as designed and will culminate in an end of year evaluation. They also distributed the results of a faculty/staff online survey conducted by the Board.

Mr. Zarlengo commented that Dr. Cirillo needs to be recognized for having made tremendous progress under very difficult conditions. Ms. Nugent said that the entire Board is very pleased with Dr. Cirillo and the leadership he has provided to ACE and the progress made. Dr. Cirillo was appreciative of the comments and expressed his appreciation for the administrative and teaching staff and the work they have done throughout the year.

### **IX. Head of School Report**

Dr. Cirillo talked about the work that we will be doing with the faculty during upcoming PD sessions to continue to move towards the CTE curriculum. We will also be working on a schedule for the next school year. At the end of April, he is meeting with the leadership at RWU to continue conversations about our relationship and the possibility of becoming a lab school for the university. He invited Board members to attend that meeting with him.

### **X. RIDE Conditions Update**

Mr. Neville talked about the progress of the PPSD MOU and the progress in defining the relationship. A meeting has been scheduled for the Superintendent later this month to review a revised version of the proposed MOU. We are looking at 3 key areas; financial, Human Resources, and Curriculum.

### **XI. Strategic Planning Update/Next Steps**

Ms. Nugent shared a document with a draft vision, mission, key expectations/drivers, and timeline. She asked the group to familiarize themselves with it and invited them to a final planning session which will be facilitated by Lois Garner. That session will be held on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm at ACE.

### **XII. Fundraising/Board Involvement Update**

This was tabled until the next meeting.

### **XIII. Board Recruitment**

This was tabled until the next meeting.



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### **XIV. Inspiring Story / Anecdote**

Dr. Cirillo shared the story of Esmeralda who is our current ACE student employee at Delta Dental of RI and has been selected as the Employee of the Month for the month of April.

He also mentioned that Ms. Toledo-Vickers has been nominated by Governor Raimondo to join the CommerceRI Board of Directors. The nomination is pending Senate confirmation.

### **XV. Other/New Business**

Ms. Nugent referred to the list of meeting dates for the SY15-16 that was distributed. Ms. Bernardino proposed that the Board consider offering a Book Award for Math and English. There was discussion about the awards.

### **XVI. Adjourn**

Ms. Paine moved and Mr. Zarlengo seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. The motion passed by unanimous vote of all members present.